

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, MS 19-31
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 322-3778



November 13, 1981

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-141-81

TO: ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCIES

SUBJECT: RECRUITMENT - SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

The Department of Social Services and KXTV - Channel 10 have developed a special news program called The Waiting Child, which is aired every Wednesday on the 5:00 P.M. News. The purpose of this feature is to recruit homes for special needs children who are available for adoption.

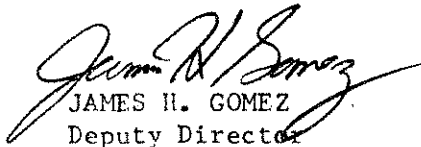
We are requesting local adoption agencies to refer hard-to-place children under their care to the Department to be screened as participants in this program. Agencies wishing to take advantage of this service would be responsible for transporting the child to the Sacramento area for filming. Our Department will coordinate the time, day and location of filming with KXTV and your staff.

To assist you in the referral process, we have included a list of criteria to use to select the children and a revised referral questionnaire to complete which will provide the screening committee with identifying and background information on the children. The screening committee will be composed of State and local agency personnel.

Please return completed questionnaires to Al Colon, Chief, Relinquishment Adoptions Bureau, 744 P Street, M.S. 19-31, Sacramento, California 95814. Your cooperation in regard to the referral of children and quick follow-up with prospective applicants will make this program a success.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact your adoptions program consultant.

Sincerely,


JAMES H. GOMEZ
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA

Attachment

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CRITERIA FOR SELECTION FOR REFERRAL FOR
TELEVISION PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILD MUST:

1. Be freed from all parents and ready for placement for adoption.
2. Not be the object of any type of action, (legal or otherwise), by a parent who is trying to regain custody of the child.
3. Be a hard-to-place/special needs child.
4. Be willing to consent to participate in the program, if at an age at which such consent would be appropriate. If a dependent of the court, the court should be willing to consent to the child's participation in the program.
5. Be able to accept the possibility that a home might not be found as a result of the television presentation.
6. Not be in a foster-adopt home.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE CRITERIA, THE CHILD SHOULD, IF POSSIBLE:

1. Exemplify or be typical of a larger group of children under the agency's care.
2. Be a child who probably would not be placed for adoption without media exposure.
3. Be in a situation in which foster parents and the social worker are supportive of his participation in the program.

REFERRAL QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name:
2. Legal Status:
3. Date of Birth:
4. Grade in School:
5. Race/ethnicity:
6. Sex
7. Is the child part of a sibling group?

If so, what is the placement status of the other siblings?

Should they be placed together?

8. Length of time in foster care, include number of foster homes, time in present home, adjustment to foster care.

9. Is the child a court dependent?

If yes, will court approval be obtained?

10. Briefly summarize previous adoptive placements, if any.

11. Describe the child's current problems (emotional, physical, mental, behavioral, etc.)

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12. Description of child's personality and temperament (include strengths and weaknesses).

What are the child's dreams or aspirations?

In what activities is child successful?

13. What are the child's strengths in terms of his/her ability to cope with not finding a home after the media exposure?

14. Describe the type of home/family this child needs.

15. Why was this child selected for referral?

16. Are the natural parents or other significant relatives in this area?
Please specify the relation between the relatives and the child.

17. Please suggest activities or areas in which the child could be filmed (zoo, roller rink, etc.).

AGENCY _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

PHONE _____